GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TOURISM
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:434
ANSWERED ON:20.11.2009
PROMOTION OF RURAL TOURISM
Naranbhai Shri Kachhadia

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the details of United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) assisted rural tourism circuits already operational and those recently identified, State-wise;

(b) whether the UNDP is offering any assistance for promoting rural tourism in the Amreli, Vadodara, Rajkot and Panchmahal districts of Gujarat State; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM(KUMARI SELJA)

(a) to (c): The Ministry of Tourism provides Central Financial Assistance to the State Government/Union Territory Administration for infrastructure development in rural sites having core-competency in art, craft, culture, handlooms/textiles etc. Community participation and capacity building including skill upgradation in such rural sites are supported through Government of India-United Nations Development Programme Endogenous Tourism Project and Capacity Building for Service Providers Scheme of the Ministry. Ministry of Tourism has sanctioned projects for development of 151 rural tourism sites to date, including 36 sites for which UNDP has extended support for capacity building. The Rural Tourism projects sanctioned so far to the State Governments/Union Territory Administration are annexed.

The list of 151 sites does not include Amreli, Vadodara, Rajkot and Panchmahal Districts of Gujarat. However, Ministry of Tourism has sanctioned Rs.474.25 lakh for development of Ambardi Wildlife Interpretation Park in Amreli District of Gujarat in 2007-08.